

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 /015 W
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R 021925Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO COMNAVFORCARIB ROOSEVELT ROADS PR

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0555

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 0618

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: N/A

SUBJ: U.S. NAVY SHIP VISIT REQUEST

1. IT IS REQUESTED THAT A U.S. NAVY COMBATANT BE SCHEDULED TO CALL AT BARBADOS, WEST INDIES, DURING PERIOD 29 NOV - 3 DEC 1976, IN CONNECTION WITH THAT NATION'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE.

2. HISTORICALLY, BARBADOS HAS PRESENTED A VERY PRO AMERICAN ATTITUDE, AND FOR THE LAST TWENTY YEARS HAS BEEN HOST TO A U.S. NAVAL FACILITY. IN DEC. 77, THE ACT AUTHORIZING A U.S. NAVAL PRESENCE IN BARBADOS EXPIRES AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT A RE-NEGOTIATION EFFORT WILL BE PURSUED. THE RECOGNITION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF BARBADOS THROUGH PROMINENT PARTICIPATION IN ASSOCIATED CELEBRATIONS WOULD SERVE GREATLY TO ENHANCE THE IMAGE OF THE U.S. NAVY AND, UNDOUBTEDLY, PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE RE-NEGOTIATION EFFORT.

3. TO ASSIST IN EVALUATING THIS REQUEST, THE FOLLOWING DATA IS PROVIDED:

A. TYPE SHIP DESIRED:

- (1) CG 16/CG 26 CLASS
- (2) DDG 2 CLASS
- (3) FF 1052 CLASS

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B. DURATION OF VISIT: FOUR DAYS

C. DESIRED DATES: 29 NOV - 3 DEC., 1976

D. BERTHING: ADEQUATE FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT
DEEP WATER HARBOR (BRIDGETOWN)

E. UTILITIES: POTABLE WATER AND TELEPHONE AVAILABLE
AT PIER; NO STEAM OR ELECTRICAL POWER AVAILABLE.

F. DEPTH OF WATER IN BERTH: 32 FT.

G. SUITABILITY OF BRIDGETOWN AS ALIBERTY PORT:
BARBADOS IS A VERY STABLE COUNTRY, AWARE OF THE
IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM, AND ACCUSTOMED TO PROVIDING
THE UTMOST IN HOSPITALITY. THE REQUESTED TIME
PERIOD COINCIDES WITH THE TOURIST OFF-SEASON AND
BRIDGETOWN SHOULD EXPERIENCE NO DIFFICULTY IN
ATTENDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE CREW. TOURS TO ALL
PARTS OF THE ISLAND ARE AVAILABLE AND REASONALBY
PRICED, AND AN ISLAND-WIDE BUS
SYSTEM IS IN OPERATION. EXCELLENT RAPPORT EXISTS
BETWEEN THE U.S. NAVAL FACILITY AND THE LOCAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND A SIMILAR ATTITUDE TOWARD
A U.S NAVY SHIP COULD BE EXPECTED. IT IS ANTICIPATED
THAT A GREAT INTEREST IN TOURING THE SHIP WOULD BE
SHOWN BY BOTH THE LOCAL POPULACE AND HIGH GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS, ALIKE.

4. THE IMPORTANCE OF A U.S. NAVY SHIP VISIT DURING THE
SPECIFIED TIME PERIOD CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASIZED, AND
FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF THIS REQUEST IS CONSIDERED TO
BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF, AND WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED
BY, ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.
BRITTON

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